

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

ROBERT ALLEN BAUTISTA,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	
	§	Case No. 3:25-cv-00435-K-BT
AT&T, INC.,	§	
	§	
Defendant.	§	

PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b) and the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan for the Northern District of Texas, the Court enters this Scheduling Order. Unless otherwise ordered or specified herein, the parties must observe all limitations and requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (the “Fed. R. Civ. P.”) and the Local Civil Rules of the Northern District of Texas (the “N.D. Tex. L. Civ. R.”). The applicable rules are accessible through the Court’s website: <https://www.txnd.uscourts.gov/rules-and-orders>.

1. **Initial Disclosures.** Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26, the parties were required to make initial disclosures by **April 1, 2025**.
2. **Amendment of Pleadings and Joinder of Parties:** Motions for leave to further amend the pleadings or join additional parties must be filed by **August 15, 2025**.
3. **Completion of Discovery:** All fact and expert discovery must be initiated in time to be completed by **January 21, 2026**. This includes the use of subpoenas to obtain documents from third parties under Fed. R. Civ. P. 45, and the supplementation of discovery responses as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(e). The parties may agree to extend the discovery deadline, provided (1) the extension does not affect the dispositive-motion deadline established by this Pretrial Scheduling Order, and (2) the parties give prompt written notice of the extension to the Court.

Plaintiff must designate all expert witnesses by **November 21, 2025**. Defendant must also designate all expert witnesses by **November 21,**

2025. Both parties must designate rebuttal experts by **December 22, 2025.** The designation of experts must comply with the provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2).

4. **Settlement Conference and Settlement Status Report:** No later than **December 1, 2025,** lead counsel and all unrepresented parties must meet and confer by telephone to discuss settlement of this case. At the conclusion of this conference, the parties must, within three business days, file a joint report notifying the Court of the results of the conference and, if the case did not settle, the status of settlement negotiations. The parties will advise the Court if they want to mediate the case with a private mediator appointed by the Court.

5. **Motion Practice:**

- a. **Dispositive Motions:** All motions that would dispose of all or any part of this case, including motions for summary judgment, must be filed by **February 23, 2026.** Objections to the qualifications or competency of experts, sometimes referred to as *Daubert* motions, will be considered as dispositive motions and must be filed by the dispositive-motion deadline. The deadline for filing dispositive motions will not be modified except upon written motion for good cause shown.
- b. **Nondispositive Motions:** Before filing a nondispositive motion, the moving party or its counsel must confer with the party or attorney for each party affected by the requested relief to determine whether the motion is opposed. Each motion must include a certificate of conference that complies with N.D. Tex. L. Civ. R. 7.1(b).
- c. **Sealed Materials:** Parties must not unreasonably file pleadings, motions, or other papers under seal. *See June Med. Servs., LLC v. Phillips*, 2022 WL 72074, at *6 (5th Cir. Jan. 7, 2022); *see also Binh Hoa Le v. Exeter Fin. Corp.*, 990 F.3d 410, 417 (5th Cir. 2021). Private or sensitive information, including social-security numbers, taxpayer-identification numbers, financial-account numbers, minors' names, and dates of birth, should be redacted from any document filed with the Court.
- d. **Courtesy Copies:** The Court does **not** require courtesy copies of any pleadings, motions, or other documents filed on the docket.

- e. **Oral Argument:** Movants should advise the Court if they believe oral argument would be particularly helpful in a given matter. If the Court sets a motion for hearing, it will require representatives for both parties to attend the hearing *in person*.
 - f. **Proposed Orders:** Every motion must be accompanied by a proposed order that is set forth separately. *See* N.D. Tex. L. Civ. R. 7.1(c). An agreed proposed order must be signed by the attorneys or parties. Movants should submit proposed orders via the Court's Electronic Case Filing system.
6. **Trial:** The District Judge will set this case for trial by separate order after all dispositive motions have been decided. The pretrial order will establish trial-related deadlines, including a deadline for submitting witness lists, exhibit lists, deposition excerpts, and proposed jury instructions. Deadlines will also be established for filing motions *in limine* and other trial-related motions.
7. **Noncompliance:** The failure to comply with any part of this order may result in the imposition of sanctions. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(f). Should any party or counsel fail to cooperate in accomplishing anything required by this order, that party or counsel or both may be subject to sanctions, including dismissal or entry of default.
8. **Court Expectations.** Plaintiff is presently proceeding *pro se*—that is, he is representing himself without the assistance of a lawyer. Although Plaintiff is not a lawyer, he must participate in this action in a manner that is consistent the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Civil Rules of the Northern District of Texas. The Court expects that, throughout these proceedings, specifically as to discovery, both Plaintiff and defense counsel will be courteous, cooperative, and professional. *See Dondi Props. Corp. v. Com. Sav. & Loan Ass'n*, 121 F.R.D. 284 (N.D. Tex. 1988) (also available through the Court's website <http://www.txnd.uscourts.gov/pdf/Notablecases/Dondi.PDF>).
9. **Communications with the Court:** Attorneys and self-represented litigants are discouraged from contacting chambers except in rare emergencies. Parties may not bring the Court procedural or scheduling questions that can be addressed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Local Civil Rules for the Northern District of Texas, the Court's Scheduling Order, or any prior Court order related to the calling attorney's or litigant's

case. The Court's staff will not discuss any substantive aspects of a specific case, the status of a pending motion, give legal advice, opine on the Court's preferences in a motion to the Court, or predict what the Court will do on a given matter. Please do not inquire about the status of pending motions. If there are extenuating circumstances regarding a pending motion that should be brought to the Court's attention, please electronically file an appropriate notice or request for relief via the CM/ECF system. Unless directed by the Court, do not email the Court or any court staff.

10. Rule 11 Warning Regarding Generative Artificial Intelligence:

Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires that “[e]very pleading, written motion, and other paper must be signed by at least one attorney of record in the attorney’s name—or by a party personally if the party is unrepresented.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 11(a). And by presenting to the court a pleading, written motion, or other paper, “whether by signing, filing, submitting, or later advocating it,” an attorney or self-represented litigants certifies—among other things—the claims, defenses, and other legal contentions are warranted by existing law and the factual contentions have evidentiary support. Fed. R. Civ. P. 11(b). Attorneys and self-represented litigants are cautioned against submitting to the Court any pleading, written motion, or other paper drafted using generative artificial intelligence (e.g., ChatGPT) without checking the submission for accuracy by traditional means (using print reporters or reputable legal databases). Any attorney or self-represented litigant who signs a pleading, written motion, or other paper submitted to the Court will be held responsible for the contents of that filing under Rule 11, regardless of whether generative artificial intelligence drafted any portion of that filing. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 11(c) (providing for imposition of an “appropriate sanction”—including nonmonetary directives, a penalty payable to the court, or payment to the opposing party of attorney’s fees and expenses directly resulting from the violation—if, after notice and a reasonable opportunity to respond, the court determines that Rule 11(b) has been violated).

Questions: Questions concerning electronic filing procedures should be directed to the ECF Help Desk at (866) 243-2866.

SO ORDERED on June 10, 2025.



REBECCA RUTHERFORD
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE